

Awareness Cambodia Newsletter | Edition 3 | 2022

A future as bright as one of Vatey's drawings!

Vatey loves nothing better than drawing and colouring pictures – dreaming, exploring and expressing herself through creativity, just as it should be when you're 11.

As the youngest child at Sunshine House, everyone loves to look out for her and she's enjoying being surrounded by loved ones, learning and having fun. But things could have been very different for the vivacious Vatey if not for Awareness Cambodia.

At the age of 2, Vatey came to live with us at Sunshine House due to difficulties in her family. Here she has found the care and support needed to not only survive but thrive.

Once a vulnerable toddler with an uncertain future, today Vatey has a world of opportunities to explore. And she explores close to home too – jumping on her bicycle and riding along with her friends as they have adventures and make plans to pursue their dreams.

Like many children before her, Awareness Cambodia has given Vatey the chance to dream of a bright future. Since opening in 2000, dozens of abandoned and neglected children have become a part of the Sunshine House family.

Over the years our extended family has grown too – as many of those in our care have become parents themselves.



Offering safety and security, Sunshine House also provides encouragement and opportunities through the power of education.

Children like Vatey are supported and nurtured and we beam with pride every time we think of how they grow into adults with a strong sense of self and purpose.

In the 9 years she has been with us, we have focussed on Vatey's development, ensuring that she is healthy both physically and mentally. This smart and friendly girl has embraced the opportunity to learn and studies hard at school.

But she also takes time out to have fun with her friends and to explore her art. Thanks to Awareness Cambodia and the generosity of our supporters, Vatey's future really is as bright as one of her drawings!



Sovandy's tapping into her own experience to forge a career

Sovandy Kaew is on the path to a rewarding career in social work. No doubt her own experience with Awareness Cambodia has provided her with invaluable insights into how lives can be transformed when someone shows they really care.

Arriving at Sunshine house as a 3-year-old, Sovandy (affectionately known as Vandy) has been part of the Awareness Cambodia family for 20 years.

In our care, Vandy has matured into a compassionate and principled woman with a desire to help others. With a vision to help advance human rights in Cambodia, Vandy is diligently working towards attaining a university degree in Social Work.





Vandy as a young child, and now as a university student at
Graduation House

Following an incredibly successful first year of university, Vandy is now in her second year and balancing her studies with part-time work as a learning assistant. With excellent time management skills, Vandy is excelling in both her studies and work experience.

As part of her degree, Vandy is also combining class work with practical experience through an internship with a not-for-profit organization once a week. This experience gives Vandy and her fellow students the opportunity to see first-hand the social issues within Cambodia.

As she is especially keen to help children who are living in poverty, Vandy chose to intern with a local group that works in children's education.

From her own experience with Awareness Cambodia, Vandy knows the power of education and how it can change lives by providing the opportunity to break the cycles of inequality and generational poverty.

Outside of university and work, Vandy loves catching up with friends, doing research and travelling to different places. She has settled into Graduation House and is a much-loved member of our family.

Given the love, care and support she provides her sisters and brothers at Graduation House, it's not surprising that Vandy would look to a career helping others and we are incredibly proud of the progress she is making as she pursues her dreams.

Child Sponsorship

Change a life

Touch a heart

Child sponsorship is one of the most effective ways to transform a vulnerable child's world, as well as the communities they live within. We work hard to ensure your money goes where it's most needed – a secure home, food, clothing, health, counselling, education and vocational training.

Every child we rescue, every child we bring into the Awareness Cambodia family, every child we empower through education, love and support, is a child who will grow into a self-reliant adult. Help us continue to change vulnerable lives through our child sponsorship program.

HOW TO DONATE

Creating brighter futures - with your generous support.

If you share Awareness Cambodia's belief that real change can be sustained by investing in people, not just in programs, then partner with us to invest in young Cambodian lives.

Donations over \$2 are tax deductible in Australia.

If you would like to donate online, please visit https://accovid19-gdg-j515.raisely.com/

Alternatively, please complete the enclosed donation form and return it to us by post or email:

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Telephone: (08) 9370 1457

Email: cambodia@awarecam.org.au

Tax deductible receipts for gifts over \$2 with a preference for project J515 or J675 are issued by the Awareness Cambodia Overseas Aid Fund (ABN 15 815 273 527). If projects are overfunded, funds may be applied to other approved project activities. Awareness Cambodia Inc (ABN 69 234 355 995) partners on these projects with Global Development Group (ABN 57 102 400 993).

